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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN THE MATTER OF:

IKEMOTO

DOCKET NO: MM4643

FILED: November 20, 2003

EXAMINER: Christopher P. Bruenjes

SERIAL NO. 10/718,751

GROUP: 1772

FOR: FLEXIBLE HOSE

COFIRMATION NO.: 1834

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

MAIL STOP AMENDMENTS

S I R:

This is in response to the outstanding office communication from the United States Patent and Trademark Office dated March 24, 2006.

Any necessary fee should be deducted from **Deposit Account No. 503814**.

In response to the requirement of the Examiner for applicant to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits under 35 USC 121, applicant hereby elects claims 1-5.

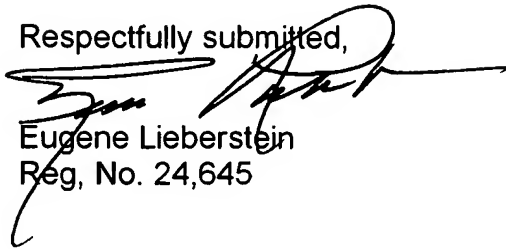
Applicant understands that upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant is entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which depend from, or otherwise acquire all the limitations of, the allowable generic claim, as provided by 37 CFR 1.141.

The election by applicant of the species covered by claim 5 is made without traverse but applicant reserves the right to file a divisional application directed to claim 6.



Prosecution on the merits of claims 1-5 is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,


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MAILING CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on April 19, 2006.

Signature: 

Date: April 19, 2006